



The IGUANA



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Operation Secure Tomorrow: Task Force Warrior Helps Haiti

By 1st Lt. Rob Goza
Director, JTF-Bravo Public Affairs

While the world saw the turmoil in Haiti on their television screens, what many may not have heard is the thumping helicopter blades of Soto Cano's own Winged Warriors.

In the skies above the impoverished island-nation of Haiti, recently rocked first by violence surrounding the ouster of former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and then by disastrous floods, the sound of Task Force Warrior's helicopters signal healing, help and hope.

Task Force Warrior, the forward-deployed element of Joint Task Force-Bravo's 1/228th Aviation Regiment, was charged with providing vital MEDEVAC, airlift, re-supply and transportation capabilities for the multinational interim forces of the United States-led Combined Joint Task Force-Haiti.

The CJTF-H mission is to restore stability and security to the country, to lay the groundwork necessary for the re-establishment of democracy and set the conditions for a long-term United Nations-led force.

When coalition forces arrived in April, Haiti was a country torn by violence, civil unrest and government corruption.

In May, when deadly floods washed away entire villages and the roads leading to them, the only way to reach those villages was by helicopter.

"We're conducting aviation operations in support of trying to establish a secure, peaceful environment here in Haiti," said Army Capt. Joshua Parrish, a CH-47 pilot and Task Force Warrior's Battle Captain.

SOUNDS OF HEALING: MEDEVAC

At CJTF-H headquarters in Port-au-Prince, the sound of the helicopters indicates the arrival of a Blackhawk MEDEVAC sortie carrying three civilians injured in a car accident.

Two Canadian nuns and their Haitian driver are delivered to the landing pad and immediately transferred - before the rotors stop turning - to a waiting military ambulance for emergency transport to a local hospital.

Flight Medic Army Staff Sgt. Shontal Thompson said his job goes beyond maintaining care in-flight, administering oxygen and monitoring vital signs.

Thompson said that he's used to comforting patients who are scared and could be suffering from shock.

"They were scared, you could tell they were very scared. One minute they're driving along and the next minute they're in an accident and then there's all these people around and then they're in a helicopter flying so there's a lot of wind," Thompson said. "It's a very scary experience."

"I fly with these guys all the time and you couldn't ask for anyone better. They're professionals," Thompson said.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. John J. Moll, a general surgeon with CJTF-H, praised the rapid, coordinated MEDEVAC response.

"I continue to be impressed with how well they perform, they did very well. In this operation we've had every combination you can have. We've had French ambulances bring American patients, we've had American helicopters bring French patients. We've had every combination of nation and doctors come together and flexibility is the key," Moll said.

"Our quick reaction to situations by helicopter definitely help out and obviously the MEDEVAC knocks a lot of time off of a mission that is life or death, very crucial," Parrish said.

SOUNDS OF HELP: TRANSPORT

In the northern Haitian town of Hinche, the sound of rotor blades signal the arrival of a fresh squad of Chilean Army soldiers, who sprint from the Blackhawk to relieve troops whose patrol is ending.

The helicopter's crew mans the Blackhawk's .50-caliber machine guns, providing security until the arriving squad is in position and the departing squad climbs onboard. The Blackhawk then returns the departing Chilean troops to their main base.

By supporting such troop movements, Task Force Warrior enables Combined Joint Task Force Haiti to conduct presence patrols that have brought security and stability to the troubled nation.

Army Spc. Aaron Senseny, the crew chief during a mission to transport troops to Hinche said that areas like this were known for violence, such as burning police stations, so the peacekeeping mission is vital.

"I feel that we've done very well for the country. We're able to move troops fast, we get them there quick, and in large



Photo by 1st Lt. Rob Goza

Volunteers from the town of Fond Verrettes, Haiti, carry rice delivered by Task Force Warrior helicopters. The rice was provided by non-governmental organizations responding to the devastating floods that destroyed the homes and livelihoods of thousands of Haitians. For more on Task Force Warrior, see pages 4 and 5.

numbers. I think it shows a good presence for the people, too, they can see we actually care what's going on," Senseny said.

SOUNDS OF HOPE: FLOOD RELIEF

Swooping over the mountains, their rotor blades making a heavy thumping sound overhead, UH-60 Blackhawk and CH-47 Chinook helicopters of the 1/228th Army Aviation Regiment's Task Force Warrior are heard before they are seen.

The helicopters, bearing hundreds of tons of water and food, delivered disaster relief to the thousands of victims whose homes and livelihoods were destroyed when floods ravaged the southern Haitian cities of Fond Verrettes and Mapou.

During the initial response to the severe flooding of several southern Haitian towns, CJTF-H relied on Task Force Warrior to deliver 18,000 liters of bottled water, 500 boxes of fresh fruit and 500 boxes of bread from its own supplies to the residents of Fond Verrettes.

Task Force Warrior and Canadian Griffon helicopters also transported interim Haitian government officials,

representatives of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to assess the situation and determine the best way to render assistance.

"We're definitely very much needed here, a lot of the places that we go would take a long time to get there by ground and the road system is not very well developed so that would add time to getting trucks and equipment there," Parrish said.

Soldiers will quickly point out that they were not alone in their efforts.

"This is a first for me, and I've quite enjoyed it actually. Working with the French regulars, the French Legionnaires, Canadians and Chileans. It's been a very, very fulfilling experience. They all work great - very professional," said Senseny.

Now CJTF-H is preparing to pass the torch to the United Nations forces who are making ready to take on the long-term tasks of aiding Haiti, and the sound of Task Force Warrior's helicopters will soon fade into the Caribbean sunset.

Despite their impending departure, Task Force Warrior has helped CJTF-Haiti set the stage for a stable and secure tomorrow for the citizens of Haiti.

Take time to reflect, learn

Brig. Gen. Mark T. Matthews
48th Fighter Wing Commander

In 1980 it seemed improbable to me that an actor I remembered most as host of "Death Valley Days" might get elected, much less succeed, as president of the United States. But I and a lot of other Americans were mightily surprised.

What I failed to understand at the time was the importance of not only communicating, but selling, a vision of where you wanted to lead people. I've met a lot of smart folks over the years, but only a few had this rare gift as did our 40th President. How did he do it?

Most importantly, I think it was his sincerity; his sincerity in the love for his country and the sincerity of the love for his wife. Like every president in my lifetime, he had his detractors as well as his fierce proponents, but only the most cynical of pundits doubted his heartfelt belief in what the United States stood for, his love of the American people and his commitment to the first lady.

Regardless of your own political viewpoints, I think these characteristics are instructive for all of us. As members of the United States Air Force, we define ourselves by our commitment to defend the liberties guaranteed by our Constitution.

But do you project that commitment in the way you comport yourself on a daily basis? Do those around you see in you that fervor as manifested by your commitment to know your job and do it well?

Do they sense your sincerity by the way you treat and talk of those officers and NCOs appointed above you?

Do you show yourself as one who holds sacred the values of loyalty and honesty in the way you keep the trust of your spouse and others close to you?

If not, then your words will ring hollow and your actions will be suspect. Your apparent commitment, unmasked by your insincerity, will be seen as nothing more than a superficial facade worn as a means to some self-serving goal.

Don't misunderstand. It's not wrong to use your military service as a way to gain an education, learn a life-long skill, or just as an opportunity to go out and do something really interesting while you figure out how you want to spend the rest of your life.

But while you do this, if you're not equally as committed, as demonstrated by your sincerity, in preparing yourself for what we all took an oath to do -- defend liberty, with our lives if necessary -- then you will fall short of the standard our citizens, and those who would follow you, expect.

Which Church?

By Chap. (Capt.) Rory Rodriguez
JTF-Bravo Chaplain

The other day while talking with someone, I was told that there is a club on post that those who attend refer to as "church." In fact, the question is even asked by someone to another, "are you going to church tonight?"

Now, I don't know about you, but as a chaplain this strikes me as very interesting. So I asked myself, "why in the world is this club called 'church?'" I must confess being a Christian and having gone to numerous churches, that some churches are in some ways similar to clubs (entertainment, socializing, music.) If people want to go to a club that's their business.

However, when people start calling the club a "church," then it becomes my business, and thus my writing this article.

The question still remains, "Why do those who go to a bar to drink and socialize refer to it as 'church?'" I thought that people who go to "church" supposedly are religious people, who worship and who contribute their tithes. If one goes all the time, he or she possibly gets labeled a "fanatic."

Well, upon thinking about this I discovered that there are many commonalities between this club-church and the typical church-club. For instance, there are some who "religiously" attend their favorite club here on post. They frequently pay their respects, members if you please. It is their place of "worship."

Believe it or not, according to Webster's Dictionary one definition for worship is, "devotion to an object." Now did you get that?

Naturally, those who devote themselves are called "devotees." The object of devotion would either be the club or more accurately what is served in the club. So, what is usually served in clubs? You have one guess. (People don't usually go to a club to drink milk.)

They usually go to the club to drink "spirits." Why do you suppose alcohol is referred to as "spirits?"

Why not a "crutch" or my "amigo?" Interesting isn't it? But there is more!

Are not those who drink heavily and constantly, worshipping or devoting themselves at the altar where the drink (offering) is served? Why, in some cases, some are at this "altar" so much that they are at times "slain by the spirits" (that is they fall over.)

This club, called a "church," has no doubt certain music to aid their worship. What about those who give their tips? Would not this be some kind of tithe, or a love offering? Isn't that incredible?

Then to top it off, they even pray before they drink, saying the words, "bottom's up." Some people in bars are even "fanatical" on what they drink and the quantity. If you put this all together you have some interesting parallels.

Now I am not trying to be sarcastic in writing about this. That is not my intent. My intent is to show you that it is sure strange for some who go to a club to call it "church" and then believe going to a traditional church to be a "drag" or a waste of time when they themselves practice rituals or rudiments at their own particular club-church.

Having said all of that, let me ask those of you who attend this club-church, "If you can attend your 'night church,' then surely you can visit the 'day church' here right? You might as well because you are religious anyway right?"

You might be getting a chuckle out of all of this but let me finish with this: the reason why some choose to worship at the base chapel is not just because they are religious, or to sing, or to pray. They come to meet with God and to worship his Son, Jesus Christ. He is the object of their devotion.

When God's Spirit speaks to the heart for instruction or edification or even to chide, the humble heart will be thankful and be most willing to serve him out of love.

This kind of worship will profit most when times get hard and difficult decisions need to be made. The Bible says, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

SUBMISSIONS

The Iguana is always looking for submissions. Any articles, photos or letters to be submitted to *The Iguana* should be sent to the PAO at michael.tuttle@jtfb.southcom.mil or delivered to the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. D-06. If you have questions about possible submissions call ext. 4150 or 4676 to talk to the editor.

The IGUANA

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News

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Hetherington takes AFFOR command



Photo by Martin Chahin

Incoming AFFOR commander Lt. Col. James Hetherington receives the AFFOR guidon from JTF-Bravo commander Col. William Phelps.

By Pfc. Michael Tuttle
Editor

Lt. Col. James R. Hetherington took command of Air Force Forces at a change of command ceremony June 17 at the Soto Cano Air Base fire station. Hetherington takes over for outgoing commander Lt. Col. Jack L. Briggs II.

Col. William Phelps, JTF-Bravo commander, termed AFFOR's operation under Briggs's command a "ballet of efficiency."

"Every day they lived up to the Air Force motto 'No one comes close,'" Phelps said. "Everybody did their part with precision."

Phelps also described Briggs as a stellar leader who has a passion for taking care of his Airmen. Briggs leaves Soto Cano for the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Hetherington was an instructor pilot in the 523rd Fighter Squadron, Cannon AFB, N.M. before arriving here. He earned his pilot wings at Columbus AFB, Miss., in 1992 after being a weapons system officer in the F-111F. His aviation career includes almost 500 hours in the right seat of F-111's, 600 hours as an instructor pilot in the Argentine Air Force, and more than 1,500 hours in different models of the F-16.

Hetherington's F-111 time includes 35 sorties over Iraq during Operation Desert Storm, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He has also been involved in testing when he was assigned to the 85th Test and Evaluation Squadron.

"I've been here three-and-a-half days and I've been totally impressed," Hetherington said during the ceremony. "Air Force member have done a great job and let's try to take it a notch higher."

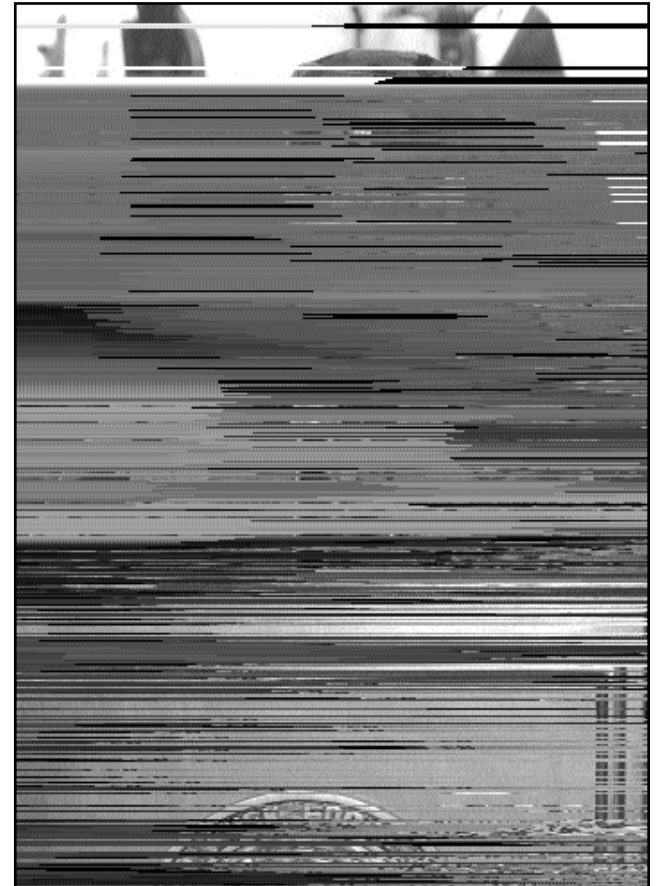


Photo by Martin Chahin

An emotional Lt. Col. Jack Briggs, outgoing AFFOR commander, told the Airmen of the 612th Air Base Squadron that serving them was the proudest accomplishment of his life.



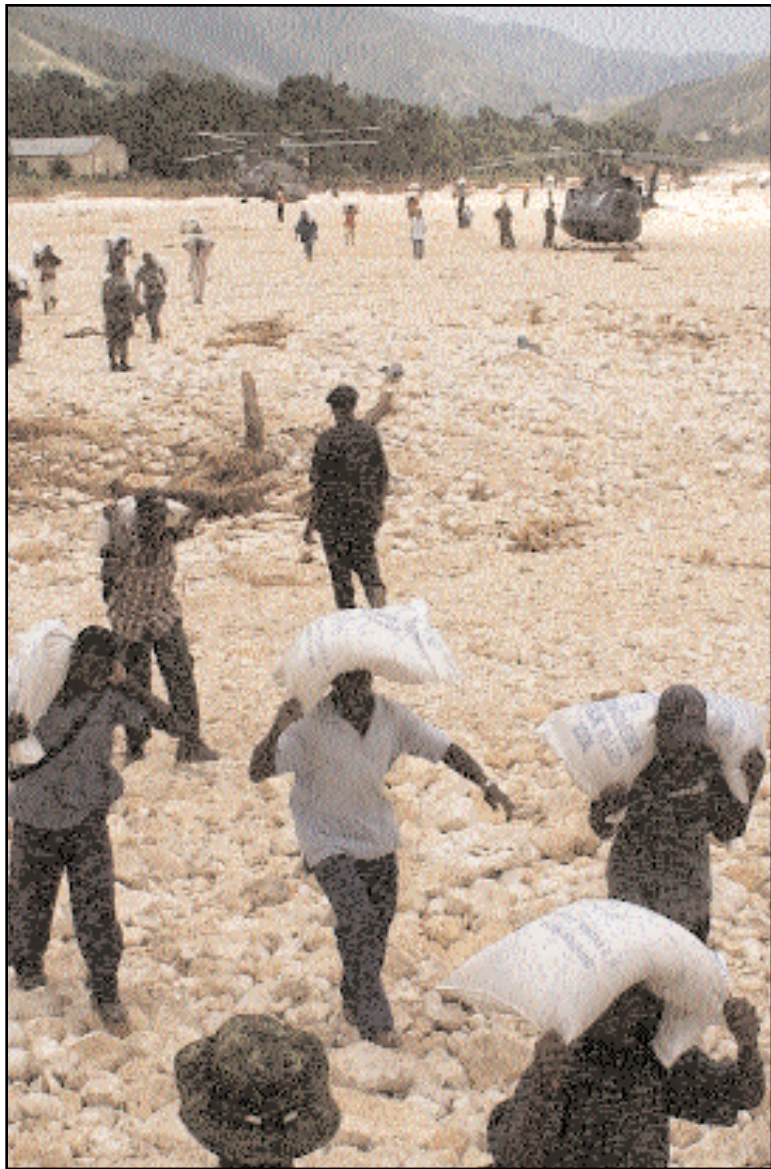
Photo by Martin Chahin

The color guard tips the flag during the U.S. and Honduran National Anthems.



Photo by Martin Chahin

The AFFOR formation salutes during the U.S. and Honduran National Anthems.



Haitian volunteers carry bags of rice toward what is left of the Haitian town of Fond Verrettes. Task Force Warrior helicopters delivered thousands of tons of rice, water, cooking oil and other supplies after floods nearly destroyed the town. Canadian Griffon helicopters transported non-governmental agency aid workers, Haitian government officials and United Nations personnel to survey the damage.

Greetings from Task Force Warr

The mission went extremely well. Ten days after receiving the order to deploy, the battalion was engaged in operations supporting Combined Joint Task Force-Haiti.

There were two keys to mission success: 1) the tremendous team effort during preparation and deployment by the J-Staff, AFFOR, ARFOR, MEDEL, JSF, as well as the 228th, and 2) the hard work, ingenuity and professionalism of the battalion's soldiers to successfully execute every assigned task safely, and to standard.

Working with the Marines, Coast Guard, and Air Force was very rewarding and provided a daily education for everyone. Adding to the learning experience was the work we did with service members from France, Chile, and Canada.

Though the languages and uniforms were different, everyone was united by the mission. The combined efforts of the members of CJTF-Haiti stabilized an uncertain situation, and gave the Haitian people a chance to begin rebuilding their government and improving their lives.

The 228th's mission was to provide mobility to CJTF-Haiti. Haitian roads are, at best, bad. After rain many of the roads become impassable.

The CJTF had elements as far as 100 miles away from Port au Prince, and the need for air transport was tremendous to be able to reinforce and re-supply those elements. During flood relief operations, Task Force Warrior moved over 400,000 pounds of relief supplies.

In addition to our role in transporting troops and supplies, we provided support to visiting dignitaries, including the

Secretary of State
Our MEDEVAC
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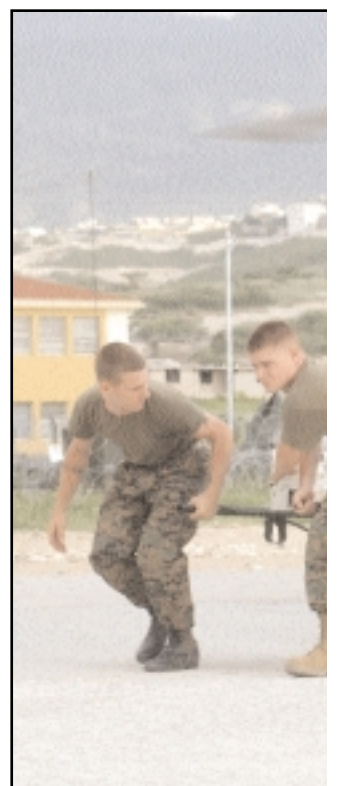
Photos by 1st Lt. Rob Goza



A young Haitian boy struggles to carry a 50 lbs. bag of rice delivered by Task Force Warrior helicopters to flood-damaged Haitian towns.



CJTF-Haiti Marines and sailors render aid to a local Haitian woman who has succumbed to heat exposure during flood relief efforts at Fond Verrettes, Haiti.



Army Staff Sgt. Shontal T. CJTF-Haiti headquarters the Task Force Warrior M.

rior!



ate and Commander, U.S. Southern Command. Aircraft were not used very often, which is fine. If MEDEVAC is flying often, things are going well. Missions included hoisting a Coast Guard cutter from a U.S. Coast Guard Cutter at sea, a night evacuation of a civilian patient from one of the towns stricken by floods.

Joint Task Force-Bravo
Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras

n: **Lt. Col. Mark Richardson**
Task Force Warrior
Combined Joint Task Force-Haiti

Every member of the battalion contributed to the mission, and many had to change personal plans during the deployment. I appreciate the flexibility and commitment the Warriors have had over the past three

months. We go to our medics who helped us round out the deployment positions, and pitched in at every turn. In 109 days, and 20 self deployment sorties, JTF-Bravo showed that we are "One Team,

I am proud to be a Winged Warrior and a member of



Thompson, flight medic, works with Marines and sailors at Soto Cano Air Base to transfer a Canadian nun injured in a car accident from a MEDEVAC helicopter to an awaiting military ambulance.



A Task Force Warrior CH-47 Chinook delivers a load of rice to the flood-damaged Haitian town of Fond Verrettes. Floods swept away most of the town, killing many of its citizens and destroying the homes and businesses of most of the residents.

Army gets new combat uniform

By Sgt. 1st Class Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

The Army will be fielding a new combat uniform designed by NCOs and tested by Stryker Brigade Soldiers in Iraq since October.

On the Army's 229th birthday, senior leadership introduced the Army Combat Uniform during a Pentagon cake-cutting ceremony. Soldiers were on display, suited-up in the wrinkle-free uniform with a digitized camouflage pattern.

Three different versions of the ACU have been developed, and more than 10,000 uniforms have been produced and dragged through the sand in Iraq and at Army training centers. Even more are on American production lines to be issued by April 2005 to Soldiers in deploying units. Fielding to the total Army should be complete by December 2007, said officials from the Program Executive Office, known as PEO Soldier.

There were 20 changes made to the uniform, to include removing the color black and adapting the digital print from the Marine Corps uniform to meet the needs of the Army, said Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Myhre, the Clothing and Individual Equipment noncommissioned officer in charge.

Black is no longer useful on the uniform because it is not a color commonly found in nature. The drawback to black is that its color immediately catches the eye, he added.

"The color scheme in the ACU capitalizes on the environments that we operate in," Myhre said. "The current colors on the ACU are green-woodland, grey-urban environments and sand brown-desert. The pattern is not a 100-percent solution in every environment, but a good solution across the board."

"This isn't about a cosmetic redesign of the uniform," said Col. John Norwood, the project manager for Clothing and Individual Equipment. "It's a functionality change of the uniform that will improve the ability of Soldiers to execute their combat mission."

Every change was made for a reason. The bottom pockets on the jacket were removed and placed on the shoulder sleeves so Soldiers can have access to them while wearing body armor. The pockets were also tilted forward so that they are easily accessible. Buttons were replaced with zippers that open from the top and bottom to provide comfort while wearing armor.

Patches and tabs are affixed to the uniform with Velcro to give the wearer more flexibility and to save the Soldier money, Myhre said. Soldiers can take the name-tapes and patches off their uniforms before laundering, which will add to the lifecycle of the patches. Also the cost to get patches sewn on will be eliminated, he added.

The ACU will consist of a jacket, trousers, moisture wicking t-shirt and the brown combat boots. It will replace both versions of the BDU and the desert camouflage uniform. The black beret will be the normal headgear for the ACU, but there is a matching patrol cap to be worn at the commander's discretion.

At \$88 per uniform, about \$30 more than the BDU, Soldiers will eventually reap gains in money and time by not having to take uniforms to the cleaners or shine boots.

The life of the ACU began in January 2003 when PEO Soldier teamed with Myhre, Master Sgt. Alex Samoba and Staff Sgt. Matt Goodine - from the 1st Stryker Brigade, Fort Lewis, Wash.

The team looked at a number of uniforms and took the best part of each uniform and combined it into one. They built their first prototype and delivered 25 uniforms to Stryker squads at the National Training Center. After listening to their comments, the team went back to the lab and created prototype two.

Twenty-one uniforms were then delivered to Stryker Soldiers at the Joint Training and Readiness Center, Fort Polk, La.

"We watched them as they entered and cleared rooms, as they carried their rucksack and all of the things they had to be able to do in the uniform, and then we came up with prototype three," Myhre said.

Two issues of the third version were given to the Stryker Soldiers deploying to Iraq. Three months ago, Myhre was among a team who visited Iraq to get more feedback from Soldiers.

"We would talk to Soldiers right after they had completed a mission while the benefits of the uniform were still fresh in their minds. We wanted to know how did the uniform help the mission."

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston is one of the ACU's biggest supporters. He said major command sergeants major had a chance to see the uniform and give advice toward the final version.

"We have not made a major change to our uniforms since the BDUs (battle dress uniforms) were introduced in the early 1980s," Preston said. "This new uniform performs well in multiple environments. Its new pockets and color designs are a result of feedback from Soldiers in combat. Every modification made on the uniform was designed with a specific purpose and not just for the sake of change."

Uniform changes include:

1. Mandarin collar that can be worn up or down
2. Rank insignia centered on the front of the blouse
3. Velcro for wearing unit patch, skill tabs and recognition devices
4. Zippered front closure
5. Elbow pouch for internal elbow pad inserts
6. Knee pouch for internal knee pad inserts
7. Draw string leg cuff
8. Tilted chest pockets with Velcro closure
9. Three-slot pen pocket on bottom of sleeve
10. Velcro sleeve cuff closure
11. Shoulder pockets with Velcro
12. Forward tilted cargo pockets
13. Integrated blouse bellows for increased upper body mobility
14. Integrated Friend or Foe Identification Square on both left and right shoulder pocket flap.
15. Bellowed calf storage pocket on left and right leg
16. Moisture-wicking desert tan t-shirt
17. Patrol Cap with double thick bill and internal pocket
18. Improved hot-weather desert boot or temperate-weather desert boot
19. Two-inch, black nylon web belt
20. Moisture-wicking socks



Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Myhre, the Program Executive Office NCOIC, sports the Army Combat Uniform, the recently approved wear for Soldiers. It contains 20 new improvements.

JTF-Bravo Friendship Chapel Activities Schedule

PROTESTANT ACTIVITIES:

Sunday

0945 Sunday School at Base Chapel
1100 Protestant Worship Service at Base Chapel
1800 Men's Bible Study at Crossroads

Tuesday

1200 Bible Study at Crossroads
1830 Off-Post Prayer Meeting at "Enlaces" (Comayagua)

Wednesday

1900 Bible Study at Crossroads

Friday

1800 Crossroads Open

CATHOLIC ACTIVITIES:

Sunday

0815 Mass at Base Chapel
0930 Bible Study Breakfast at Dining Facility

Wednesday

1200 Mass at Base Chapel

Saturday

1630 Mass at Base Chapel

LATTER DAY SAINTS ACTIVITIES

Sunday

1800 LDS Fellowship at Base Chapel
For more information call the Chapel at 6844/6845

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News

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MEDEL conducts MEDRETE in La Ceiba

MEDEL is conducting an ear, nose and throat Medical Readiness and Training Exercise in La Ceiba June 12-26. Left: A patient undergoes an operation to improve her hearing which she lost due to chronic ear-aches. Right: A young girl wears a smile as she is prepped for surgery. Medical personnel from Soto Cano and Ft. Sam Houston, Texas are performing four surgeries per day for two weeks in a La Ceiba hospital. 1st Lt. Adam Dalgeish, an operating room nurse, said that they have to be creatively resourceful and conservative as they came with the exact amount of materials needed. Photos by Pfc. Michael Tuttle

**JTF-Bravo service member selected for European tour**

By Pfc. Michael Tuttle
Editor

A JTF-Bravo service member has been selected to participate in a five-nation European tour July 3-18 as a member of the U.S. Combined Services Men's Rugby Team.

Capt. Al Winnig, assistant S-3 for the 1-228th Aviation Regiment, will be touring for the second time with the Combined Services Team, which includes service members from all five branches of the military.

"Playing teams from around the world you get to see and experience different styles of rugby," said Winnig.

Winnig has been playing rugby for nine years beginning in 1995 at Loyola University. After transferring to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he played three years there and was captain of the team in 2000. While attending flight school at Ft. Rucker, Ala., he played on the post team for a year and a half. After flight school he was stationed in Seoul, South Korea where he played for a local team called the Seoul Survivors.

Winnig competes at the annual Armed Forces Championship as a member of the All-Army Rugby Team. The championship, hosted by a different service branch every year, consists of a round robin competition between teams from the Marines, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard and Army. After the round robin, the two teams with the best record

play for the championship, which has been won by the Army nine of the last 11 years. Winnig's role with the team includes calling the majority of the plays and controlling the pace of the game.

"The European competition will be strong," said Winnig. "Playing rugby there is like playing baseball in the United States. They start playing at a very young age and continue to develop their skills. My hope is to learn from these experiences and bring back new techniques and skills to the All-Army Rugby Team."

Winnig previously toured South Africa in 2000 with the Combined Services Team.

"We traveled all over South Africa from Johannesburg to Cape Town playing rugby and absorbing the sites," said Winnig about the South African tour. "We played a variety of teams from semi-pro club level to the South African Air Force team."

The European tour will start and end in Germany, and includes stops in the Netherlands, Poland, the Czech Republic and France.

The trip marks the 10th bi-annual tour in the history of the Combined Services program. The program provides an avenue for military players to compete for selection to the U.S. Men's National Rugby Team.

"Rugby is an amazing sport," Winnig said. "You can destroy your opposition on the field for 80 minutes and leave the game with 15 new friends. There is a camaraderie that can't be duplicated in any other sport."



Photo by Pfc. Michael Tuttle

A slice for the ages

Master Sgt. Bruce Steele and Pfc. Natasha Buchanan represent the oldest and youngest soldiers of JTF-Bravo as they cut a cake in honor of the Army's 229th birthday June 14.

ARFOR, MEDEL rappel during SAR training



Photo by Pfc. Michael Tuttle

ARFOR Spc. Dennis Millette ensures the safety of ARFOR Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Williams as she simulates a casualty being rescued during a buddy-aided descent at the rappel tower June 17. Personnel from MEDEL and ARFOR combined to conduct the Search and Rescue training.



Photo by Pfc. Michael Tuttle

MEDEL 1st. Lt. Tim Phillips stretches from the top of the tower before rappelling down.



Photo by Pfc. Michael Tuttle

MEDEL Staff Sgt. Veeron Wilson rappels down the tower frontward, or "Aussie" style.



Photo by Martin Chahin

ARFOR Staff Sgt. Paul Hrynio simulates a casualty as he is pulled up the tower in a SKED.